



## 'I Know Who Is Behind the Mhaje Ghar Court Case': CM

Says all pending Kul-Mundkar cases will be resolved within 3 months

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said that he knows who filed the court case against the Mhaje Ghar Scheme and said the person's identity would be revealed "at the appropriate time," while simultaneously announcing a three-month deadline for the disposal of all pending Kul and Mundkar cases across Goa.

Addressing a public gathering, Sawant alleged that certain individuals were attempting to prevent Goans from securing legal ownership of their homes



through the Mhaje Ghar Scheme. He also took a swipe at some opposition MLAs, claiming they opposed the legislation in the Assembly but later participated in distributing application forms under the same scheme.

The Chief Minister said the government has

resolved to ensure that all pending Kul and Mundkar cases are disposed of within the next three months and that no such files will remain pending thereafter. He described the move as part of the government's commitment to providing legal certainty to thousands of families.

Sawant further announced that all eligible applicants under the Mhaje Ghar Scheme will receive their house sanads at their doorsteps within the next six months. He added that the government is also working on a new "Mhajo Flat" Scheme aimed

at expanding housing benefits in the state.

Tourism Minister Rohan Khaunte said irregularities in the implementation of the 20-Point Programme in Porvorim had been brought to the Chief Minister's attention, following which corrective measures were taken to ensure eligible beneficiaries received their house sanads.

Rajya Sabha MP Sadanand Shet Tanavade welcomed the initiative, stating that while he had been unable to secure ownership rights

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## FIR Sought Against MMC Administrator Over Samuel Braganza's Death

Complaint alleges civic inaction on garbage issues contributed to circumstances leading to 22-year-old's death



Team Goemkarponn

**MAPUSA:** A formal complaint has been submitted to the Mapusa Police Station seeking the registration of a First Information Report (FIR) against the Administrator of the Mapusa Municipal Council (MMC) in connection with the death of 22-year-old Samuel Braganza of Caraswaddo, Mapusa.

The complaint alleges that persistent civic problems, particularly those relating to garbage management and environmental conditions in the area, led to tensions and disputes that ultimately contributed

to the circumstances surrounding Braganza's death. It further states that local residents had repeatedly raised concerns over the issue and sought intervention from the civic authorities. However, according to the complaint, these grievances were allegedly ignored and adequate corrective measures were not taken despite repeated representations. Seeking criminal action, the complainant has requested the police to register an FIR against the MMC Administrator and conduct a detailed investigation into the matter.



## "President Has No Authority To Levy A Tax": US Court Strikes Down \$100,000 H-1B Visa Fee

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** A US federal court has struck down the Trump administration's controversial decision to impose a \$100,000 fee on new H-1B visa applications, ruling that the measure exceeded presidential authority and amounted to an unauthorised tax.

The decision was delivered by a federal judge in Boston, who concluded that the fee could not be legally imposed without explicit approval from Congress. The court held that the executive branch lacked the authority to introduce what effectively amounted to a tax on H-1B visa petitions, declaring the policy unlawful and invalid in its entirety. The ruling came in response to a legal challenge filed by a coalition of Democratic state attorneys general after the administration announced the fee increase in September.

## 24 Indian Seafarers Rescued After Fire Erupts On Oil Tanker Near Strait Of Hormuz

Crew Evacuated Safely Off Omani Coast as Authorities Probe Cause of Maritime Incident

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** All 24 Indian crew members aboard an oil tanker were rescued safely after a fire broke out on the vessel near the Omani coast, prompting an emergency evacuation operation in waters close to the strategically significant Strait of Hormuz.



According to maritime authorities, the incident occurred while the tanker was operating in the Arabian Sea near one of the world's most

vital shipping corridors. Following reports of the fire onboard, an emergency response was initiated and the entire

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## Kala Academy to Shut for Repairs From August 1 After IIT Madras Flags Defects

Task Force seeks accountability for renovation work, alleges major public expenditure was wasted

**PANAJI:** The Kala Academy complex will remain closed from August 1 to facilitate further repair works after an assessment by IIT Madras reportedly identified 18 major defects in the recently renovated facility, members of the Kala Academy Task Force said. The decision was taken following discussions on the technical findings,



which highlighted several shortcomings in the renovation work carried out at the cultural complex. The Task Force has maintained that the defects require immediate corrective action to ensure the safety and functionality of the premises. The committee has also

demanded that responsibility be fixed for the alleged deficiencies in the project. It has called for the recovery of costs from the contractor responsible for the renovation, alleging that nearly 80 per cent of the expenditure incurred on the project did not achieve its intended purpose because of the defective work.

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# A Divided Opposition Cannot Offer Goa an Alternative

There is something deeply puzzling about Goa's opposition politics. Its leaders routinely acknowledge that the BJP has built a formidable electoral machine. They complain about the ruling party's dominance, its ability to attract defectors, and its control over the political narrative. Yet when it comes to the one thing that could potentially challenge that dominance, opposition unity, they retreat into separate corners.

The result is a political paradox. Everyone in the opposition appears to agree that the BJP is the principal opponent. Yet opposition parties often spend more energy protecting their individual political turf than building a collective challenge. It is a strategy that has repeatedly failed, but one they seem determined to repeat.

The arithmetic is obvious. Goa is not a state where political parties can afford endless fragmentation. Every election demonstrates that a divided opposition benefits only one side. When multiple parties compete for the same anti-BJP voter, the ruling party does not need overwhelming public support to win. It only needs the opposition to remain divided.

Yet opposition leaders continue to behave as if they are on the verge of independent breakthroughs. Every party claims to be the real alternative. Every leader insists that their organisation has unique strengths. Every group believes voters are waiting for its particular vision. The problem is that voters do not cast ballots for political ego. They vote for governments.

Goans looking for change are unlikely to be impressed by opposition parties that cannot even agree among themselves. If parties cannot negotiate seat-sharing arrangements, settle leadership questions or create a common agenda, why should voters trust them to run a stable government?

The obsession with identity has become a major obstacle. Regional parties want to preserve their distinctiveness. National parties want to protect their dominance. Newer entrants want to expand their footprint. All these

*"The arithmetic is obvious. Goa is not a state where political parties can afford endless fragmentation. Every election demonstrates that a divided opposition benefits only one side. When multiple parties compete for the same anti-BJP voter, the ruling party does not need overwhelming public support to win. It only needs the opposition to remain divided.*

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objectives may make sense from an organisational perspective. But from the voter's perspective, they often appear self-serving.

What is the point of preserving political identity if it comes at the cost of political relevance?

This is where the opposition's argument about creating an "alternative vision" becomes unconvincing. Vision matters. Policies matter. Ideas matter. But none of them matter if there is no realistic pathway to power. Elections are not academic seminars. They are contests for

government. A vision without a winning strategy is little more than a press statement.

The BJP understands this reality better than its rivals. Over the years, it has shown remarkable flexibility in expanding its influence. It has welcomed defectors, built alliances when necessary, and adapted its tactics to changing circumstances. The opposition, by contrast, often appears trapped in endless debates about who should lead, who should contest and who deserves greater prominence.

Meanwhile, voters are left waiting for an alternative that never fully materialises.

There is also a credibility problem. Many opposition leaders speak passionately about defeating the BJP while simultaneously preparing to contest against fellow opposition parties. Such contradictions undermine public confidence. Voters are not blind. They can see when parties that claim to share common concerns are unwilling to make common sacrifices.

Goa's opposition must confront an uncomfortable truth. The greatest obstacle to its success may no longer be the BJP's strength. It may be the opposition's inability to act collectively.

Political parties have every right to maintain their identities and ideologies. Democracy thrives on diversity. But there is a difference between diversity and disunity. One enriches politics. The other guarantees defeat.

The question facing Goa's opposition is simple: does it want to govern, or does it merely want to exist?

If the objective is governance, compromise is unavoidable. Seat adjustments are unavoidable. Shared platforms are unavoidable. Political maturity is unavoidable.

If the objective is simply to preserve separate party flags and individual ambitions, then the outcome is already known.

The BJP will continue to win, and the opposition will continue to explain why losing was somehow part of a larger strategy.

At some point, voters stop listening to explanations. They start looking for results.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Jobs for Goans Must Mean Fair Opportunity, Not Protectionism

The decision to put the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Goa recruitment process on hold following concerns about employment opportunities for local candidates has reignited an important debate. While every Goan would support fair opportunities for local youth, the solution cannot be to undermine merit or create an impression that jobs at national institutions should be reserved by default for residents of one state.

NIT Goa is not merely a state institution. It is a premier national institute funded by taxpayers across the country and governed by national recruitment norms. Therefore, transparency and merit must remain the foundation of every hiring process. If there are genuine allegations that deserving Goan candidates were unfairly denied jobs, those concerns deserve a thorough and independent investigation.

However, Goa's leaders must also ask a more fundamental question. Why are local candidates often unable to compete successfully for such positions? The answer lies not in restricting competition but in strengthening education, skills development and professional training.

Goans deserve opportunities because they are qualified and capable, not because others are excluded. Any recruitment process must be transparent enough to reassure local youth while remaining open enough to attract the best talent available.

The long-term objective should be to create a workforce that can compete confidently at the national level. That would be a far greater achievement than temporarily halting a recruitment process.

Goa must demand fairness, but fairness should never be confused with protectionism.

- Rajan Naik, Mapusa

### Road Repairs or Election Preparations?

As Goa enters another monsoon season, politicians across the State are suddenly displaying extraordinary concern for the condition of roads. Hotmixing works are being undertaken at a frantic pace despite persistent rains and weather conditions that are far from ideal for such repairs. One cannot help but wonder whether these projects are intended to improve infrastructure or simply improve electoral prospects ahead of the Assembly elections expected in early 2027.

Road construction and repair should follow engineering standards, not political calendars. When hotmixing is carried out during the rains, the quality and durability of the work are inevitably compromised. Roads patched today often develop potholes within months, requiring fresh expenditure from the public exchequer. This cycle of repair, deterioration and repair again has become all too familiar to Goans.

What is particularly striking is the timing. For years, many roads have remained neglected despite repeated complaints from residents. Yet as elections draw closer, there is a sudden rush to undertake visible projects that can be showcased as achievements. The objective appears less about creating lasting infrastructure and more about creating favourable impressions among voters.

Taxpayers deserve better than temporary cosmetic fixes. Public funds should be used to build roads that can withstand Goa's weather conditions, not to finance short-term works designed to generate political mileage. Development is not measured by how many roads are hurriedly repaired before an election but by how long those roads remain in good condition afterwards.

If the government is serious about public welfare, it must prioritise quality and accountability over election-year optics. Otherwise, these monsoon roadworks will be remembered not as development projects but as expensive campaign advertisements funded by the people themselves.

- Caetano Fernandes, Goa Velha

# Anjunem Reservoir Nears Critical Levels, Raising Water Quality Concerns

Consumers report changes in colour, smell and taste as experts call for stricter monitoring and transparency

Team Goemkarponn

**SATTARI:** With water storage at the Anjunem Reservoir falling below 15 per cent of its capacity, concerns are mounting over the quality of drinking water supplied to Sattari, Bicholim and neighbouring areas, prompting calls for enhanced monitoring and greater transparency



from authorities. In recent weeks, several residents have complained that tap water appears greenish, carries an unpleasant odour and has an unusual taste. The complaints have grown as the reservoir's

water levels continue to decline. According to water quality specialists, shrinking reservoir volumes can significantly affect the condition of stored water. As water levels fall, sediments and organic matter become more concentrated, while dissolved oxygen levels may decrease. These conditions can encourage

the growth of algae and other microorganisms, leading to noticeable changes in water quality. Experts explain that when a reservoir approaches its lowest storage levels, materials settled at the bottom—including silt, decomposed organic matter and other impurities—can mix with the remaining water.



## Stolen Pet Dog Recovered, DSPCA Urges Owners to Stay Alert

Complaint filed with Fatorda Police after German Shepherd allegedly taken and sold

Team Goemkarponn

**FATORDA:** An incident involving the alleged theft and sale of a pet German Shepherd from Borda has prompted animal welfare authorities to call for greater vigilance among pet owners.

The District Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (DSPCA) has lodged a complaint with the Fatorda Police, seeking legal action against a man suspected of taking the dog and selling it for ₹4,500.

Speaking to reporters, DSPCA Executive Secretary Virginia Simoes said the dog disappeared from its owner's residence on June 5. Investigations later revealed that the animal had allegedly been taken to another locality and sold to a third party.

The breakthrough came after the owner's appeal on social media gained traction, helping trace the dog within hours. The animal was subsequently

reunited with its family the next day.

According to DSPCA officials, the German Shepherd was found in a weakened state and required immediate veterinary attention. The dog was reportedly suffering from dehydration and fatigue when it was recovered.

Simoes said the organisation is concerned that such incidents could become more common if offenders are not dealt with firmly.

She urged pet owners to take extra precautions, including ensuring their animals are not left unattended and limiting contact with unfamiliar individuals. The DSPCA has provided CCTV footage related to the case to the Fatorda Police and has requested that an FIR be registered after the suspect is identified. Police are expected to examine the evidence and take further action in accordance with the law.



## Goa Maritime Board Bill Cannot Be Delayed Any Further: Venzy

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**PANAJI:** Aam Aadmi Party MLA Venzy Viegas has urged the Goa government to immediately introduce and pass the Goa Maritime Board Bill, arguing that further delays are hampering reforms needed to modernise the state's maritime sector.

Handing over a copy of the proposed Bill to Ports Minister Digambar Kamat on Monday, Viegas said the legislation would create a dedicated Maritime Board capable of streamlining port administration, promoting shipping activities and driving long-term development of Goa's coastal economy.

The MLA maintained that the Bill had already been vetted by legal experts and was introduced during the previous Assembly session but could not be taken up for discussion after the enforcement of the election code of conduct.

## Maina-Curtorim Policeman Suspended Following Complaints of Misconduct

Inquiry launched into allegations of improper conduct and assault at police station

Team Goemkarponn

**MAINA-CURTORIM :** A police constable serving at the Maina-Curtorim Police Station has been suspended pending an investigation into allegations of misconduct involving members of the public.

The action comes after complaints surfaced regarding the constable's handling of a dispute brought before the

**SUSPENDED**

police station by two separate parties. Sources indicated that standard procedures may not have been followed during the intervention. It is alleged that four individuals were detained at the police station for several hours, remaining there until late at night. Authorities are

also looking into claims that the individuals were subjected to physical

mistreatment while at the station. A senior police official said the department acted swiftly after receiving information about the alleged incident. "Based on the preliminary information available to us, disciplinary action has been initiated against the constable.

## Kidney Ailments Raise Alarm in Canacona

Activists seek dedicated renal unit and full-time nephrologist as dialysis cases rise

Team Goemkarponn

**CANACONA:** Concerned over what they describe as a sharp increase in kidney disease cases in the taluka, social activists have urged the Goa government to investigate the causes behind the trend, strengthen renal healthcare services, and establish a dedicated Kidney Unit with a full-time nephrologist at the Community Health Centre (CHC), Canacona.

Social activists



Shubham Komarpant and Sunay Komarpant raised the issue after visiting the dialysis unit at CHC Canacona and interacting with patients and hospital authorities.

According to the

activists, the number of dialysis patients at the CHC has increased from 99 six months ago to 114 at present. They also stated that 12 patients who were undergoing dialysis at the centre died

during the same period. In addition, several residents of Canacona are receiving dialysis treatment at private hospitals and other healthcare facilities across the state. While appreciating the quality of care and services being provided at the dialysis unit, Komarpant said the increasing number of kidney failure cases is a matter of serious concern and requires a detailed study. He noted that the only major issue observed during the visit was the non-functional lift, which hospital authorities said is under repair

and is expected to become operational by September. The activists claimed that nearly 70 per cent of the dialysis patients belong either to Scheduled Tribe communities living in interior villages such as Gaondongrim and surrounding areas or to fishing communities residing along the coastal belt. They urged the government to conduct a scientific survey to determine why renal failure cases appear to be more prevalent in these regions.

# Drishti Marine Lifesavers Rescue Suicide-Bound Man, Save Tourist and Trace Missing Children

■ Multiple weekend operations across Goa beaches include sea rescues, medical assistance and reunion of two children with their families

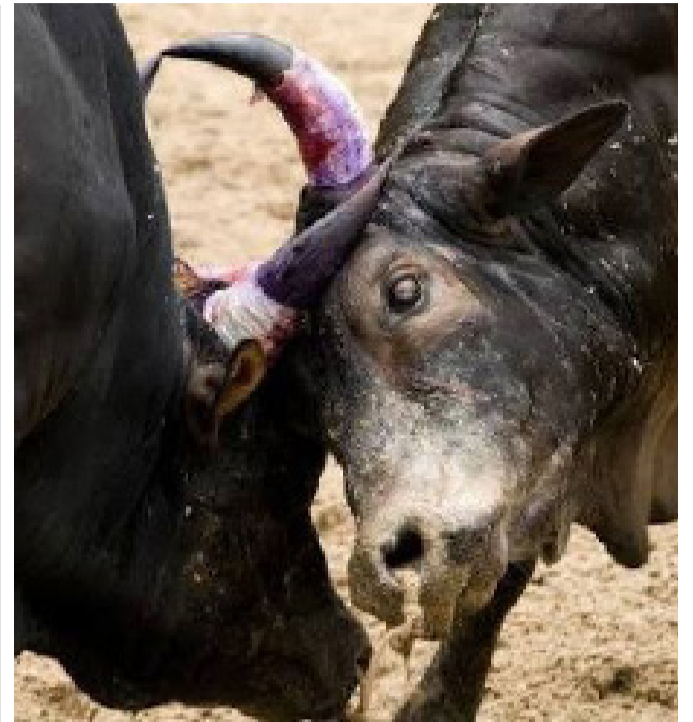
**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** Drishti Marine lifesavers successfully carried out multiple rescue and assistance operations across Goa's beaches over the weekend, including rescuing a 22-year-old man who allegedly attempted suicide at Calangute beach, saving a tourist caught in a rip current at Baga beach, tracing two missing children, and assisting a teenager who suffered



an epileptic episode at Betalbatim beach. At Baga beach, a 24-year-old tourist from Jalna, Maharashtra, was rescued after being caught in a rip current while swimming near the shoreline. The tourist panicked after being pulled away by the current before on-duty lifesavers Ankur Chaudhary and Sujan Nagvekar reached him with a rescue tube and rescue board and brought him safely back to shore.

At Calangute beach, on-duty lifesavers Suraj Sawant and Vinod Lamani rescued a 22-year-old man from Margao after he drifted into deeper waters. After bringing him safely to shore, the lifesavers found that he was in distress and had reportedly entered the sea in an attempt to end his life. Drishti Marine personnel immediately alerted emergency services, following which the man was handed over to the Goa Police.



## Two Booked for Organising Bull Fight at Seraulim

■ Colva Police register cruelty to animals case after alleged public bull fight

**Team Goemkarponn**

**COLVA:** Colva Police have registered a case against two persons for allegedly organising a bull fight at Seraulim and subjecting the animals to cruelty for public entertainment.

According to the police, the case was registered based on a state complaint filed by PSI Manju Vantamuri of Colva Police Station. The incident allegedly occurred on June 7 at around 3 p.m.

The accused have been identified as Bernard Gomes, a resident of

Seraulim, and Riyaz Khan, a resident of Pedda, Benaulim. Police alleged that the two, acting as organisers, conducted a bull fight between two bulls in an open place visible to the public and incited the animals to fight each other for the entertainment of spectators.

The act allegedly amounted to subjecting the animals to cruelty, following which a case was registered by Colva Police.

Further investigation is being carried out by PSI Manju Vantamuri of Colva Police Station.



## Elderly Couple Killed in Bambolim Road Accident

**Team Goemkarponn**

**BAMBOLIM:** An elderly couple from Salvador do Mundo lost their lives after the scooter they were travelling on allegedly collided head-on with an Innova car while moving in the wrong direction on NH-66 near the Athletic Stadium at Bambolim in the early hours of Sunday.

According to Agacaim Police, information about the accident was received from an unidentified caller at around 4:36 a.m. ASI Ulhas Gaonkar registered MV Accident No. 52/2026 and rushed to the spot.

Police found that the accident involved an Innova car (GA-07-F-5982) and an Activa scooter (GA-03-AJ-5796). The rider and pillion rider of the scooter, who sustained serious injuries, were shifted to Goa Medical College (GMC), Bambolim, for treatment.

During the inquiry, police found that the Activa scooter was allegedly travelling in the wrong direction on the carriageway meant for vehicles moving from Panaji towards Agacaim.

## Passenger Booked After Used Ammunition Found at Mopa Airport

■ Five used rounds detected during security screening; police register case under Arms Act

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PERNEM:** Mopa Airport Police have registered a case under Sections 3 read with 25 of the Arms Act, 1959, after five used ammunition rounds were allegedly found in the possession of a passenger during security screening at Manohar International Airport, Mopa. According to the police, the offence was registered on June 8 at 10:46 a.m. based on a complaint filed by Lohith P.N., Duty Manager and

**BOOKED**

Shift In-charge (Inline Screening) at the airport.

The accused has been identified as Manoj Kumar, 47, son of Mangal Sen Mitthal, a resident of Nagla Maliyan-1 near Railway Crossing, Sikari Hissai, Agra, Uttar Pradesh. He was scheduled to travel from Mopa to Delhi on Air India Express flight IX2762 and was allotted seat 24A. Police said that during

security screening at around 10 p.m. on June 7, airport security personnel detected five used ammunition rounds in the passenger's possession.

The accused allegedly failed to produce a valid licence to possess or carry the ammunition and also could not produce permission from the competent authority to carry the same on board the aircraft, in violation of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) guidelines.

## FDA Cracks Down on Food Safety Violations at Mapusa's Alankar Food Area

■ Four stalls and one juice centre shut; authority warns it may seek ban on cooking activities over repeated non-compliance

**Team Goemkarponn**

**MAPUSA:** The Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) has raised serious concerns over ongoing food safety violations by vendors operating at the Alankar food area in Mapusa despite repeated warnings and inspections.

As part of a recent pre-monsoon



enforcement drive, the FDA took action against five establishments, resulting in the closure of

four food stalls and one juice centre for failing to comply with prescribed food safety norms.

According to officials, vendors at the Alankar food area have consistently failed to maintain the standards mandated under food safety regulations, despite repeated advisories and inspections conducted by the department.

In view of the continued non-compliance, the FDA has warned that it may seek a ban on cooking

activities at the Alankar food area if operators fail to adhere to the required hygiene and food safety standards. The authority said it will continue inspections and enforcement measures to safeguard public health and ensure that food businesses comply with the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act.

# Canacona Meeting Demands ST Political Reservation Be Deferred Until Census and Delimitation

■ Gathering of representatives from various communities passes three resolutions, seeks wider consultation before implementation

**Team Goemkarponn**

**CANACONA:** A meeting of representatives from various castes, communities and religions in Canacona has called for the implementation of political reservation for the Scheduled Tribe (ST) community in Goa to be deferred until the completion of the Census and the subsequent



delimitation process. The meeting, convened to deliberate on the government's proposal to extend political reservation

to the ST community before the 2027 Assembly elections, passed three unanimous resolutions after discussions by

several speakers. Former Canacona MLA Vijay Poi Khot and a number of local leaders were among those present. One of the resolutions stated that the Goa government's decision to provide political reservation to the ST community should be kept in abeyance until the completion of the Census and the subsequent delimitation exercise.



## Dabolim Chosen for Solar Village Initiative Under PM Surya Ghar Yojana

■ South Goa District Coordination Committee decides to implement scheme in Chicalim Panchayat to promote renewable energy

**Team Goemkarponn**

**DABOLIM:** The South Goa District Coordination Committee, chaired by the District Collector, held a meeting to discuss the implementation of the PM Surya Ghar Yojana and plans to develop selected areas as Solar Villages to promote clean and renewable energy.

During the meeting, it was decided to implement the scheme in Chicalim Panchayat under the Dabolim constituency as part of the Solar Village initiative.

Accordingly, the committee resolved to develop Dabolim as a Solar Village, with a focus on encouraging the adoption of solar energy and promoting sustainable and renewable power solutions in the area.

The initiative aims to increase the use of rooftop solar systems, reduce dependence on conventional sources of electricity, and support the government's broader objective of expanding clean energy infrastructure through the PM Surya Ghar Yojana.



## Talsai Villagers Reject Claims of Safe Drinking Water Supply

**Team Goemkarponn**

**SANGUEM:** Villagers of Talsai in Sanguem have strongly condemned reports claiming that the village is receiving safe drinking water, asserting that their long-standing drinking water problems remain unresolved. During a gathering attended by representatives of 124 families, residents alleged that certain media reports incorrectly stated that the village no longer faced a drinking water issue and that the available water was safe for consumption.

The villagers maintained that the shortage of safe drinking water continues and expressed disappointment over what they described as false and misleading reporting. They said such reports create confusion and weaken their ongoing efforts to secure access to safe and reliable drinking water. The residents urged media organizations and reporters to verify facts on the ground before publishing such information, emphasizing that accurate reporting is essential to highlight the genuine hardships faced by the community.

## Complaint Alleges Irregular Recruitment at Navelim Panchayat; Inquiry Sought

■ Villagers approach BDO office as Sarpanch says appointment and salary hike were approved by panchayat body, approval now sought

**Team Goemkarponn**

**NAVELIM:** Allegations of irregularities in recruitment at the Navelim Panchayat have surfaced after resident Roshni Rodrigues filed a complaint with the Vigilance Department and the Director of Panchayats, seeking an inquiry into the matter.

According to the complaint, members of the panchayat board



allegedly appointed one of their relatives to a job and subsequently increased the employee's monthly salary from ₹13,000 to ₹21,000 without obtaining the required approval from the competent authorities. On Monday, local villagers also visited the office of the

Block Development Officer (BDO), where they held discussions with officials and demanded immediate action and a thorough inquiry into the alleged irregularities. Responding to the allegations, Sarpanch Paul Perera said that while approval from the BDO or the Director of Panchayats had not been obtained at the time of the appointment and salary revision.

## Alex Reginald Urges Civic Responsibility After Massive Diaper Waste Cleared from Villages

■ Curtorim MLA says over 3.8 tonnes of used diapers collected in two days from Rachol, Camurlim and Curtorim

**Team Goemkarponn**

**CURTORIM:** Curtorim MLA Alex Reginald has appealed to residents to adopt responsible waste disposal practices after sanitation workers collected approximately 3,880 kilograms of used diapers from Rachol, Camurlim and Curtorim over the last two days.

In a public message, the MLA said the dedicated labour team spent the past 48 hours cleaning roads, fields and water channels that



were littered with used diapers and plastic waste. He stressed that the issue was not about politics or assigning blame but about the need for greater civic sense.

Reginald noted that while the use of diapers for babies and elderly

family members is a part of everyday life, disposing of them on roads and open spaces poses serious environmental and public health concerns. He pointed out that such waste contaminates areas where children play, cattle graze and water flows.

Appealing to every household, he urged residents to dispose of used diapers only in dustbins and, if garbage collection vehicles are delayed, to wrap them securely in two plastic bags before handing them over to sanitation workers.

The MLA also acknowledged the efforts of responsible citizens and sanitation workers, stating that the workers risk their own health while collecting rotting waste.



## Two Trees Crash Onto Two-Wheeler on Canacona-Agonda Road, Rider Injured

**Team Goemkarponn**

**CANACONA:** A motorcyclist sustained head injuries after two large trees crashed onto the Canacona-Agonda road at Devabhaga on Monday morning, disrupting traffic for more than an hour.

According to reports, a huge banyan tree fell onto the road at around 10 a.m., bringing down a large mango tree standing beside it. The falling trees trapped a motorcycle that was travelling towards Agonda.



# Engineering Exports Reach Historic USD 122.43 Billion as India Strengthens Global Trade Presence

■ Robust policy support, expanding market access and a resilient manufacturing sector drive record growth over the past decade

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** India's engineering exports have achieved a historic milestone, rising from nearly USD 70 billion in FY 2014-15 to a record USD 122.43 billion in FY 2025-26, highlighting the remarkable progress of the country's manufacturing and export ecosystem over the last twelve years. The achievement was showcased during an interaction between government representatives and members of the engineering export community in Goa.

The engineering sector has emerged as the backbone of India's merchandise exports, steadily increasing its contribution from around one-fifth of total exports in FY 2015 to nearly 28 per cent in FY 2025-26. This sustained growth reflects the sector's growing competitiveness, adaptability and ability to meet global demand despite challenging



international conditions.

Over the years, Indian engineering products have expanded their reach across major markets, including North America, Europe and other advanced economies. The increasing acceptance of these products underscores improvements in quality standards, technological capabilities and manufacturing excellence.

The growth has come amid a complex global trade environment marked by geopolitical uncertainties, supply chain disruptions and fluctuating market conditions. Even so, Indian exporters have demonstrated resilience, supported by continuous

policy measures and close coordination between industry stakeholders and government agencies.

A range of initiatives has helped strengthen the export ecosystem, including efforts to improve market access through trade agreements with key global partners. Programmes such as the Market Access Initiative Scheme, Production Linked Incentive Scheme, National Single Window System, Quality Control Orders and the One District One Product initiative have further enhanced India's integration into global value chains.

The engineering sector has also recorded

three consecutive years of record export performance, reaching USD 109.3 billion in FY 2023-24, USD 116.67 billion in FY 2024-25 and USD 122.43 billion in FY 2025-26. India's western region continues to play a pivotal role in this success story, contributing nearly 39 per cent of the nation's engineering exports and generating USD 47.5 billion in export earnings during FY 2025-26. With continued reforms, improved digital trade infrastructure and stronger support for exporters, the sector is expected to remain a major driver of India's economic growth and global trade ambitions.



...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

## 'I Know Who Is Behind the Mhaje Ghar Court Case': CM

for several families in Pirna during his tenure as Sarpanch and MLA, the present government had fulfilled that long-standing demand by granting house sanads under the MG Scheme.

## 24 Indian Seafarers Rescued After Fire Erupts On Oil Tanker Near Strait Of Hormuz

crew was evacuated as a precautionary measure. Officials confirmed that there were no casualties or injuries among the Indian seafarers.

The rescued crew members are safe and are receiving the necessary support and assistance from relevant authorities. The Directorate General of Shipping stated that it is closely monitoring the situation and remains in coordination with maritime agencies and local authorities to assess the circumstances surrounding the incident.

## "Safe and Speedy Mobilisation of Troops": Zojila Tunnel Nears Completion, Set to Transform Ladakh Connectivity

■ India's longest road tunnel expected to strengthen border infrastructure, boost defence readiness and ensure year round access to Ladakh

**Team Goemkarponn**

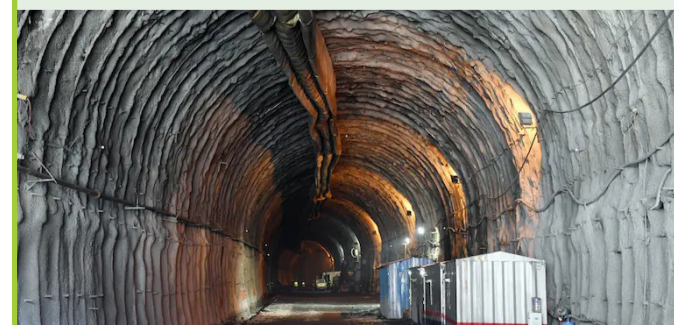
**New Delhi:** India's longest and one of its most strategically significant road tunnels is on the verge of completion, marking a major milestone in the country's infrastructure and border connectivity efforts. The Zojila Tunnel, being constructed through the challenging Himalayan terrain, is expected to provide all weather connectivity between Ladakh and the rest of the country while significantly enhancing military mobility in the region. The final breakthrough of the tunnel is scheduled to take place with the last blast, bringing to completion a project that has been under construction for several years under extremely demanding conditions. Built at a cost of approximately Rs 4,600 crore, the tunnel is designed to overcome the long standing connectivity challenges posed by the Zojila Pass, which frequently remains closed during winter because of heavy snowfall and avalanches. The project is expected to play a crucial role in strengthening India's strategic preparedness along both the Line of Control with Pakistan and the Line of Actual Control with China. Faster movement of troops, military equipment and essential supplies will significantly improve operational readiness

in Ladakh, particularly during emergencies and adverse weather conditions.

Engineers and workers involved in the project faced temperatures plunging below minus 25 degrees Celsius while working in one of the country's toughest construction environments. A large majority of the workforce comprised local Kashmiri workers who contributed extensively to the successful execution of the project despite the harsh climate and difficult terrain.

Constructed using the New Austrian Tunneling Method, the tunnel has been specifically designed to suit the fragile Himalayan geology and varying rock formations encountered during excavation. The successful completion of the underground work is being viewed as a major engineering achievement and a testament to India's growing expertise in executing complex infrastructure projects.

Beyond its strategic importance, the tunnel is expected to deliver substantial economic benefits by improving connectivity, facilitating trade, boosting tourism and ensuring uninterrupted access to essential services throughout the year. Once operational, it will reduce weather related isolation and create new opportunities for development across the region while strengthening national connectivity and security.



# Government Cuts Subsidised LPG Cylinder Quota for Ujjwala Beneficiaries to Four

Revised entitlement linked to average household consumption as rising global fuel costs push up subsidy burden

**New Delhi:** The central government has reduced the number of subsidised LPG cylinders available annually to beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) from nine to four, citing consumption patterns among beneficiary households and mounting pressures from rising international fuel prices.

Launched in 2016, the Ujjwala scheme provides free LPG connections to women from economically



weaker households with the aim of promoting clean cooking fuel and reducing dependence on traditional fuels. Beneficiaries were initially entitled to 12

subsidised 14.2 kilogram cylinders every year. The quota was reduced to nine cylinders last year

and has now been further lowered to four.

Government officials stated that the revised entitlement closely matches the average

annual LPG consumption of Ujjwala households. Despite the reduction, beneficiaries will continue to receive a subsidy of Rs 300 per 14.2 kilogram cylinder, which is directly transferred to their bank accounts after purchase. The subsidy was first introduced at Rs 200 per cylinder in 2022 and was increased to Rs 300 in October 2023.

The decision comes amid a rise in domestic cooking gas prices.



## From Naxal Strongholds to Manipur Hills: Elite CoBRA Commandos Take On New Security Mission

Centre deploys specialised CRPF jungle warfare unit amid fresh tensions in Manipur's hill districts

**New Delhi:** The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has decided to deploy elite CoBRA commandos of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Manipur as security agencies respond to renewed tensions and sporadic incidents reported in parts of the state's hill districts. The decision follows recent friction between Kuki and Naga groups in certain areas, prompting heightened vigilance and a reassessment of the security situation. Authorities believe the induction of the specialised force will strengthen efforts to maintain peace and prevent further escalation. The Commando Battalion for Resolute Action, popularly known as CoBRA, is the CRPF's highly trained jungle warfare unit. Established to combat insurgency and Maoist violence,

the force has built a formidable reputation through years of operations in some of the country's most challenging terrains. Senior CRPF leadership has been closely monitoring preparations for the deployment. During a recent visit to Manipur, top officials reviewed the security environment, interacted with personnel and assessed operational requirements. Emphasis was placed on restoring law and order and ensuring a strong response to any attempts to disturb peace in the region. Security officials maintain that adaptability remains one of CoBRA's greatest strengths. Before being fully inducted, personnel will undergo familiarisation and pre deployment training tailored to Manipur's unique geographical and operational conditions.



## "Very Positive": IAEA Chief Backs India's Shanti Act and Ambitious Nuclear Expansion Plans

**New Delhi:** India's efforts to expand its nuclear energy programme received a significant endorsement from the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), who described the country's newly enacted Shanti Act as a positive step towards strengthening its nuclear sector and supporting future growth. The legislation, officially known as the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Act, seeks to reform the country's nuclear liability framework and create a more favourable environment for investment and participation in the sector. The reforms are expected to address longstanding concerns surrounding liability provisions while encouraging greater private sector involvement in nuclear power development.

## "United We Stand, Divided We Fall": INDIA Bloc Unveils 5 Point Strategy to Strengthen Opposition Unity

Alliance Leaders Resolve Differences, Focus on Coordination, Electoral Issues and Economic Concerns

**New Delhi:** The INDIA alliance sought to project a renewed sense of unity and purpose during a crucial meeting in New Delhi, where opposition leaders discussed recent political challenges, addressed internal differences and outlined a five point action plan aimed at strengthening coordination ahead of upcoming political battles.

The meeting, which



lasted nearly three hours, took place against the backdrop of changing political equations within the opposition camp. Despite differences among some alliance partners and the absence

of a few key constituents, leaders emphasised the need to remain united in confronting national issues and safeguarding democratic institutions.

A major theme of the discussions was the importance of maintaining cohesion within the alliance.

## 'Sar Katega Lekin Jhukega Nahi': TMC Rebel MP Kakoli On Quitting Mamata Banerjee After 40 Years

Rebel MP cites governance concerns as growing dissent threatens to deepen Trinamool Congress crisis

**Team Goemkarponn**

**New Delhi:** Senior Trinamool Congress leader and Barasat MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar has publicly defended her decision to part ways with the party after nearly four decades of association with Mamata Banerjee, alleging governance failures and growing internal discontent within the organisation.

Emerging as one



of the most prominent faces of the rebellion within the party, Dastidar claimed that a group of dissident Members of Parliament is exploring the

possibility of aligning with the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). Her remarks come amid a period of turbulence for the Trinamool Congress

following its defeat in the 2026 West Bengal Assembly elections.

Dastidar said her association with Banerjee dates back to the early years of the political movement, long before the party came to power in West Bengal. While acknowledging Banerjee's role as a mentor and leader, she maintained that recent developments within the government and the party had compelled her to take a different

political path.

The three time parliamentarian alleged that multiple sectors, including education, healthcare and law and order, had witnessed a decline in recent years. She also claimed that administrative functioning had been affected by the influence of a small group of leaders, creating obstacles to effective governance and contributing to public dissatisfaction.

# Hardik Pandya Cleared For Afghan ODIs, Rohit Sharma Also Set To Return After Fitness Assessment

■ India Receive Timely Boost Ahead Of Three-Match Series As Senior Stars Near Full Fitness

**New Delhi:** India have received a major boost ahead of the upcoming ODI series against Afghanistan, with star all-rounder Hardik Pandya being declared fit after successfully completing his rehabilitation programme at the BCCI Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru.

Pandya had missed four matches for the Mumbai Indians during IPL 2026 due to back spasms, raising concerns over his availability for the 50-over series. Although he



returned for the franchise's final league match, his place in the national squad remained subject to medical clearance.

Following an extensive fitness assessment, the 32-year-old has now been



cleared for selection. Reports indicate that Pandya underwent a rigorous rehabilitation process after reporting to the Centre of Excellence on June 2. During the assessment period, he

participated in multiple match simulations and successfully completed his full bowling workload, including ten-over spells, without any signs of discomfort.

The successful completion of the programme has reassured team management about his readiness for international cricket, providing India with a crucial all-round option ahead of the three-match ODI series beginning in Dharamsala.

## Atharv, Komal and Anvitha Shine With Double Titles at South Goa District Badminton Tournament

■ Young Shuttlers Deliver Impressive Performances Across Age Categories at Navelim Event

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** Atharv Parsekar, Komal Kothari and Anvitha Poojari emerged as the star performers at the South Goa District Badminton Tournament, securing double crowns in their respective categories at the Manohar Parrikar Indoor Stadium, Navelim.

Atharv enjoyed a dominant outing by winning both the Boys Singles Under-15 and Under-17 titles, while Komal matched the feat by clinching the Girls Singles Under-15 and Under-17 championships.

Anvitha also completed an impressive double, capturing the Girls Singles Under-11 and Under-13 crowns to

underline her talent across age groups.

In the Under-19 categories, Shaurya Naik and Manasvi Naik were crowned Boys Singles and Girls Singles champions respectively, adding their names to the list of standout performers at the tournament.

Organised by the South Goa District Badminton Association under the aegis of the Goa Badminton Association, the event attracted enthusiastic participation from promising young shuttlers from across the state. In the younger age categories, Rafael De Ataide and Oorvi Khyalia emerged champions in the Boys Singles and Girls Singles Under-9 events respectively.



**"Test Cricket Was Always My Dream": Manav Suthar Reflects On Dream Debut And Match-Winning Heroics Against Afghanistan**

**Team Goemkarponn**

**New Delhi:** India's newest Test sensation, Manav Suthar, has revealed that he continued practising with the red ball during IPL 2026 after learning he was in contention for the one-off Test against Afghanistan, a decision that ultimately paved the way for a dream debut and a memorable match-winning performance.

The 23-year-old left-arm spinner enjoyed a remarkable start to his international career, claiming 6 for 33 in Afghanistan's first innings and becoming only the fifth Indian bowler to take a five-wicket haul on Test debut. His performance played a key role in India securing the biggest victory by runs in the country's Test history.

## Shri Swami Samarth Clinch ₹1 Lakh Title Prize in Thrilling Vasudev Sane Memorial Tournament

■ Three Day Double Wicket Cricket Event in Savoi Verem Celebrates Grassroots Talent and Sporting Spirit

**PANAJI:** The Late Shri Vasudev Sane Smruti Chashak Double Wicket Hard Tennis Ball Cricket Tournament concluded successfully on June 7 after three days of competitive cricket at Path Ground in Savoi Verem, Goa. Held from June 5 to 7, the tournament witnessed enthusiastic



participation from players and strong support from the local community, making it a memorable sporting event.

The final match

delivered an exciting contest as Shri Swami Samarth, represented by Rajat Kudalkar and Shubham Jha, emerged as champions.

## Shree Damodar High School Crowned GCA U-14 Presidents Cup Champions

■ Captain Rumaan Mulam Leads From The Front As Margao School Defeats Saraswat Vidyalaya By 20 Runs In State Final

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** Shree Damodar High School, Margao, emerged victorious in the GCA Under-14 Boys Presidents Cup 2025-26, defeating Saraswat Vidyalaya, Mapusa, by 20 runs in an exciting state final played at Chapora Ground on Monday.

After winning the toss, Saraswat Vidyalaya elected to field first. Shree Damodar High



School responded with a strong batting display, posting 100 for 3 in their allotted 10 overs. Captain Rumaan Mulam led the charge with a composed 43 off 30 deliveries,

anchoring the innings and setting a solid platform for his side. Usman Ghani contributed a valuable 21 runs from 18 balls, while Abishek Lamani provided a late flourish

with an unbeaten 13 off just four deliveries. For Saraswat Vidyalaya, Samarth Dhulapkar was the pick of the bowlers with figures of 2 for 14, while Kavish Sawant claimed

one wicket. Chasing 101 for victory, Saraswat Vidyalaya struggled to keep pace with the required run rate and finished on 80 for 5 in 10 overs.